(a) whether there has been mass exodus of officers from the Navy;

(b) if so, the number of persons who left the naval service from technical and non-technical sides during 1991-92;

(c) whether the Government have made any study into the causes of such exodus;

(d) if so, the result thereof and the steps being taken by the Government to check it; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (e). Naval officers are permitted to seek premature retirement on the following grounds:-

(i) Supersession

(ii) Compassionate reasons

(iii) Permanent Low Medical Category

(iv) Absorption in the Public Sector/ Re-settlement in civil life within a period of 2 years from the date of normal retirement.

All cases of premature retirement are approved by the Govt on the recommendations of the Chef of Naval Staff subjects to their fulfilling the laid down guidelines /criteria and after keeping the Navy's manpower requirements in mind.

The number of Technical and non-Technical officers upto the rank of Captain/Commodore who took prematue retirement during the year 1991-92 is as follows:-

Technical Branches – 33

Non-Technical Branches – 64

These figures are lower than the corresponding figures for the previous financial year (1990-91).

Increase in Road Tax in Delhi

6980. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the road tax in Delhi has been raised; and

(b) if so, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The Delhi Administration have revised road tax in Delhi w.e.f. 1.4.1992. The revision has been necessitated due to increase in the cost of maintenance of roads and collection charges.

Export of Silk and Silk Garments

6981. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA:
SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of silk and silk garments exported during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether there is a great demand for Indian Silk garments in the international market;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of silk and silk garments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The quantity of silk garments and th total quantity of silk textile products exported during the last three years are as under:–

Year	*Quantity (in lakh Sq. meter)*	
	Silk Garment	*Total silk textile products*
1989–90	62.67	358
1990–91	60.74	325
1991–92 (upto Feb. 92)	60.47	350

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The quantum of exports of silk garments during the year 1991–92 (April–Feb.) were 9% more than the entire exports of silk garments during the year 1990–91.

(d) In order to boost the export of silk textile products including silk garments, the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council takes up various export promotion programmes including particiaption in trade fairs, organisation of buyer-seller meets in different countries, publicity compaign etc.

Expenditure of Central Silk Board

6982. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of administrative expenditure of the Central Silk Board during the last three years; year–wise

(b) whether there is a steady increase in the expenditure; and

(c) if so, the corrective measures proposed to be taken to minimise it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The amount of administrative expenditure of the Central Silk Board (CSB) during the last three years is as under:–

Year	*Amount (in Rs./lakh)*
1989–90	379.31
1990–91	429.72
1991–92 (upto Feb. 92)	474.09

(b) and (c). The increase in the administrative expenditure of CSB is mainly due to implementation of the World Bank/Swiss assisted National Sericulture Project. However, the Board is taking measurs to minimise the expenditure on travelling, overtime allowance, office expenses, creation of posts under its normal plan programmes etc.

Seizure of Gold at Igia

6983. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of gold seized